REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-27 were previously pending in the application. Claims 1-27 are canceled; and new claims 28-50 are added herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 28-50 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

In paragraph 1 of the office action, the Examiner objected to the drawings. In response, the Applicant submits herewith a Transmittal of Corrected Drawing(s) amending Fig. 2 as suggested by the Examiner.

In paragraph 2, the Examiner stated that the title was not descriptive. In response, the Applicant has amended the title by modifying the Examiner's suggestion to emphasize that the title refers to both speech coding and decoding.

In paragraph 3, the Examiner objected to the disclosure because of certain informalities. In response, the Applicant has amended the specification as suggested by the Examiner.

In paragraph 5, the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Applicant submits that the rejections of the claims based on Section 112, first paragraph, have been overcome by the amendments to the claims described in further detail below.

In paragraph 7, the Examiner rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Cutter. For the following reasons, the Applicant submits that all of the now-pending claims are allowable over the cited references.

New claim 28 is directed to a method for convolving a first digital signal with a second digital signal, where the first and second digital signals are audio processing signals. Support for new claim 28 is found in Table 2 of the specification. According to claim 28, the first digital signal contains a first set of one or more data values and a second set of one or more data values, where the data values in the second set are all zero values. (Note that, in general, each data value in the first set could be zero or non-zero.) The location in the first digital signal of each data value in the first set is located, and a convolution of the first and second digital signals is generated as a sum of one or more multiplication products. Each multiplication product is generated by multiplying a data value in the first set of the first digital signal by a corresponding data value of the second digital signal. For each multiplication product, the two data values are selected based on the identified location of the data value in the first set of the first digital signal. None of the cited references, whether considered alone or in combination, teaches or even suggests such a combination of features.

For all these reasons, the Applicant submits that claim 28 is allowable over the cited references. For similar reasons, the Applicant submits that claims 35 and 42 are allowable over the cited references. Since the rest of the claims depend variously from claims 28, 35, and 42, it is further submitted that those claims are also allowable over the cited references.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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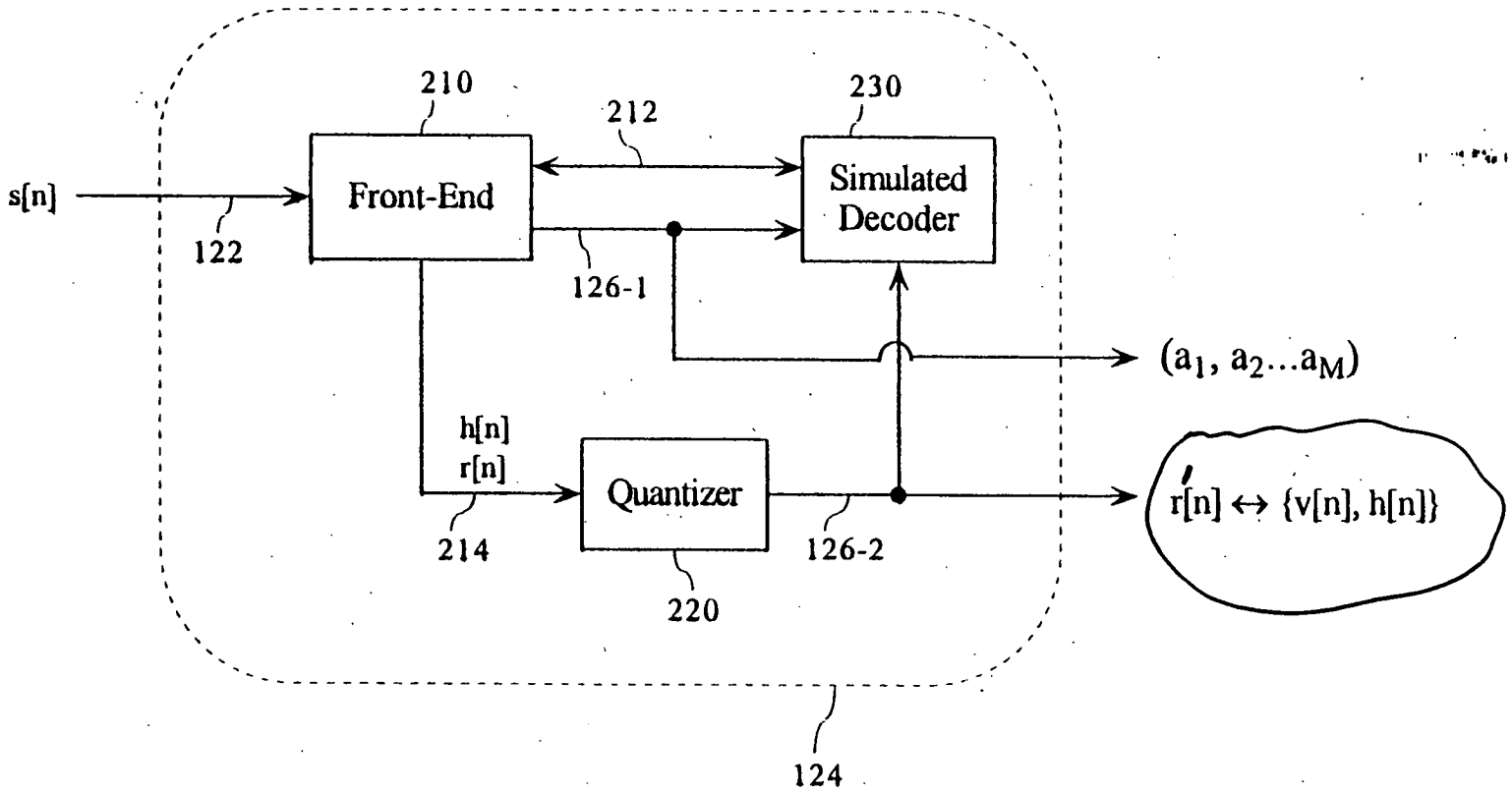

Fig. 2